

DISCOVERY

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Through the Many Facets of Aerospace Medicine

8th Air Force commander will succeed General Martin at AFMC

WRIGHT-PATTERSON AFB, Ohio Air Force Materiel Command officials announced today that Lt. Gen. Bruce Carlson will pin on his fourth star and assume command of AFMC from Gen. Gregory Martin, who plans to retire after 35 years of service.

General Carlson is commander, 8th Air Force, Barksdale Air Force Base, La. The change-of-command ceremony will take place at 10 a.m., Aug. 19, at the National Museum of the United States Air Force.

"I am thrilled at the opportunity to serve with nearly 80,000 AFMC professionals who have brought such marvelous capabilities to our Air Force and to our nation," said General Carlson. "I look forward to

serving with each and every one on the team as we open a new chapter in AFMC's proud tradition of excellence.

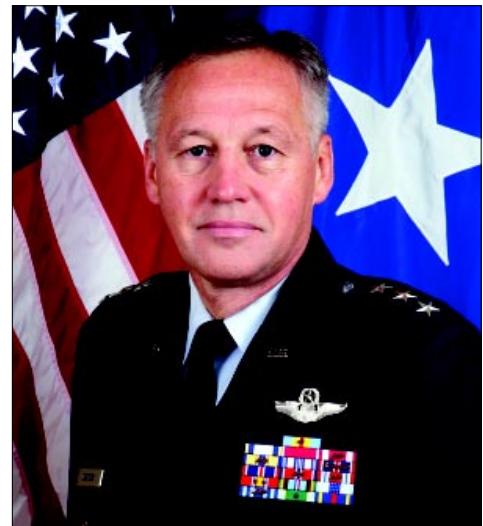
"I had the honor to follow General Martin as a brand new fighter pilot over three decades ago, then again at the Pentagon when I followed his lead as the Air Force's Director of Operational Requirements and now in AFMC," said General Carlson. "It is a privilege to stand in his shadow - he is a world-class leader, superb mentor and genuine Air Force hero."

General Carlson was commissioned in 1971 after completing the University of Minnesota's Air Force ROTC program as a distinguished graduate. He began his Air Force career as an Undergraduate Pilot

Training student. He is a command pilot with more than 3,000 flying hours in various aircraft, including the F-117 and B-52.

General Carlson also was an F-4 pilot with the 417th Tactical Fighter Squadron, Holloman AFB, N.M., where he flew with General Martin; and an air controller, instructor pilot and flight examiner.

General Carlson's other assignments include: vice commander, 366th Wing, Mountain Home AFB, Idaho; commander, 49th Fighter Wing; and four assignments in Washington D.C., including the post of senior military assistant to the deputy secretary of defense.



LT. GEN. BRUCE CARLSON
AFMC Commander

See General Martin/Page 7

FSC earns its first Commander's Award

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Military members and dependents' belief in the Brooks Family Support Center being a first-rate organization was further validated in July when it was rewarded for its service to the community with its first 311th Human Systems Commander's Award.

Col. Laura Alvarado, vice commander of the 311th Human Systems Wing, presented the base's highest honor to an organization that has come to epitomize family values that are applied to the

morale and readiness of those they support.

Lucy Belles, FSC director, joined three other staff members in accepting the award, that in many supporters' minds, has been long overdue.

FSC earned the honor on the strength of its numerous accomplishments and initiatives. They include its establishment of two key Brooks events – Volunteer Appreciation Day and "Pamper the Spouse" Appreciation Day.

The former event honored more than 300 base volunteers who contributed 56,933 hours of community service worth more than \$1 million, while the latter feted more than 200 spouses.

FSC's other major award-winning initiatives include its creation of a new and safer children's play area and the first relocation, career focus and employment assistance CD that allows PCS'ing dependents a head start on the job search process before arriving at Brooks.

Additionally, the Family Support Center was cited in its award nomination for modernizing its resource room with state-of-the-art computers; collaborating with other base agencies on the Integrated Delivery System and Community Action Information Board that collectively promoted new ideas for "wingman" events; and provided outstanding family outreach to dependents of deployed spouses.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Brandy Bogart

Lucy Belles (right), director of the Family Support Center, and Tech Sgt. Brigida Hendrix flank Command Chief Master Sgt. Reggie Williams at a recent Deployment Appreciation Day luncheon. The FSC received its first ever Commander's Award for its service to the community.

Stinson Field continues to attract Brooks, AF ties

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Two former Air Force aviators with long ties to Brooks City-Base are helping rekindle and strengthen Stinson Field's historic link to military flight training.

Retired Col. Larry Carr, a Northern Taiga Ventures, Inc. contractor here, supporting the 311th Human Systems Wing and Air Force Surgeon General, and retired Col. Gene Jensen, last Human Resources Laboratory commander, have resurrected the Stinson School of Flying. Their venture continues the legacy of the Stinson family who founded this school during the early years of powered flight to support military flying instruction.

"Stinson (Field) was built to support military flights," said Colonel Carr, a general aviation entrepreneur who is president and owner of Check-Six Aviation, Inc., headquartered at Stinson Field located a few miles west of Brooks. He and Colonel Jensen co-founded in 2000 the Stinson School of Flying, a Check-Six Aviation subsidiary.

"The Stinson School of Flying supports the new Air Force Flight Screening Program," Colonel Carr said. "It provides introductory flight training for Air Force pilots and navigators." He said the school also has provided flight training for five U.S. Air Force School of Aviation Medicine aviation physiologist classes.

As the second largest flying school in San Antonio, this enterprise is adding to the heritage of the original flying school founded by the Stinson family. Aviation pioneers Katherine, Marjorie, Eddie and Jack Stinson originally began operating their flying school at Fort Sam Houston in 1913.

School operations there ended in 1915 when the Army post was closed to civilian flying. Two years before Brooks Field became operational, the Stinsons petitioned the San Antonio City Council to lease 500 acres to create a landing field and flying school. It would become Stinson Field, our country's second oldest continually operating municipal airport.

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COMMENTARY



Mission first, people always

By Col. Robert Hamm
380th Expeditionary Maintenance Group commander, SW Asia

Over the years I've watched many leaders — officers, chiefs, NCOs, and Airmen alike — take our organization to ever higher levels of achievement. Like you, I have studied those I considered to be outstanding leaders and I've watched others struggle with the challenges of leadership. But I learned from all of them.

Growing up in our Air Force, I found the greatest challenge was balancing the needs of the people with the needs of the mission. It seemed to me a leader was described as either a "people person" or a "mission-oriented person," but seldom did I see a leader who effectively balanced both — until I met Master Sgt. Kenneth Kelly.

Sergeant Kelly understood it was his job to make sure his shop was capable of performing its wartime tasks but just as importantly to ensure the welfare of the troops.

Fire up that still!

(Editor's note: This is the fourth in a continuing series of articles highlighting the best board game alternatives for classic yet tired games like Monopoly, Clue and Risk.)

By Kendahl Johnson

Discovery editor

On a whim, I picked up a copy of Eagle Games' Bootleggers through an ebay auction. I immediately regretted the purchase, wondering how I would explain to my wife that I bought yet another game — a game about mobsters bootlegging moonshine no less. But after playing the game several times, I no longer regret the purchase, as Bootleggers is one of the most fun games I have played.

In Bootleggers, players assume the role of 1930s-style mobsters who create and distribute crates of moonshine to the local speakeasies. Whoever makes the most cash wins the game. To start, each player is given a Family Still, which also doubles as a reference card, and one production die. Players also receive 12 Muscle cards and a small truck for transporting moonshine.

The game is played in five phases. First, several Men of Action cards are placed face up. These cards are the essence of the game. They offer a variety of play options, including starting turf wars, hijacking another player's moonshine, stealing production dice, improving stills, gaining influence and much, much more. Players use their numbered Muscle cards to simultaneously "bid" on turn order. The player with the highest muscle card has first choice of purchasing an additional truck or selecting a Men of Action card.

Next, players "send in the boys," placing men of influence figures on a speakeasy. Players are competing for control of five speakeasies. The men of influence markers determine when the joint will be open for business, as well as the order moonshine will be purchased from the players. Players with the most influence in a particular speakeasy have first option of selling their moonshine to that speakeasy — an important element of the game since demand is limited.

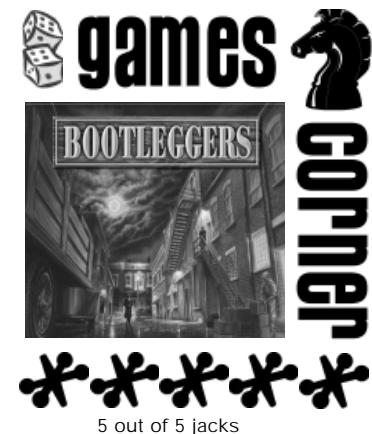
Third, players "fire up the stills," rolling production dice to determine how many crates of moonshine they will produce that round. Trucks are loaded and unused crates and empty trucks can be sold or rented to other players. Fourth, players "run the whisky," taking their trucks to the speakeasies to sell. Moonshine is bought on a first come, first served basis. Lastly, each speakeasy rolls dice to determine demand for that round and the whisky is purchased and mobsters paid.

Theme: The game oozes with theme. While I certainly don't condone the illegal acts of the game, it's fun to simulate the corruption of 1930s time period. It may not be the best choice of games for family night, as some people may not want their kids pretending to be mobsters selling whisky and muscling their way into illegal booze fronts, but it certainly fits the bill for a group of adults looking for a fun game.

Complexity: Despite a 16-page booklet with many illustrations, pictures, and rule clarifications, we still struggled through the learning phase of the game. Be-

"Accomplishing the mission is the primary task of every military organization; everything else must be subordinate," according to AFPAM 36-2241, Promotion Fitness Examination Study Guide. "However, a successful military leader recognizes that people perform the mission and that without their support, the unit will fail. Thus, meeting the needs of the people is a responsibility equal in importance to meeting the requirements of the mission."

Sergeant Kelly said it this way: "Mission first, people always." Being a leader isn't about being popular. Given some of the things we're asked to do, it's not realistic to expect everyone to be happy all the time. In his mind, taking care of troops meant ensuring they were properly trained, healthy, properly equipped, held accountable to the highest standards, all the while making sure they understood our core values of integrity, excellence, and selflessness. He wasn't easy on us. He challenged our team and didn't tolerate substandard performance.



5 out of 5 jacks

fore playing, I read through the instructions three times and felt a little overwhelmed. It took us a while to really understand the basic rules and about four rounds of actual play to get a grasp of the game. After the game, I realized we had botched several rules, including one major rule. The next play was much smoother, however. Once you have played, the game can be taught in a fairly short amount of time, and the game can be explained a bit at a time, but unless you have someone who has played before in your group, plan on the first game being a learning game.

Interaction: There is plenty of interaction in this game. Every player is involved in every phase, so there isn't any down time waiting for your turn to roll around. There are also plenty of opportunities to negotiate, since you will often find yourself with extra crates of moonshine that won't fit in your trucks, or space in your trucks for additional crates.

Competitiveness: The men of influence cards add a huge "take that" factor to the game. These cards allow players to hijack another player's truck, steal whiskey from their still, force players to pay money to the bank, destroy influence markers in a speakeasy and other nasty things. You can really mess with your opponent's enterprises. This element enhances the theme and adds to the flavor of the game. Also, at the end of rounds four and eight (of 12 rounds), players announce how much money they have. If you are far in the lead, you can count on several mobsters ganging up on you.

Strategy: There is a certain luck factor in the game, as with any game that utilizes dice. Someone who rolls high can make a killing on a certain turn. Conversely, it's funny to watch someone invest in still improvements and additional trucks only to roll snake eyes and produce just two crates of moonshine (although not so funny when it happens to you). But there are many elements of strategy in the game. Knowing when to play the right Muscle card is crucial and can involve a bit of bluffing. Getting a remote still up and running is very useful, but so is having total control of a speakeasy. There are many different general strategies, all adding to the fun. In one game, you might try to control a fleet of trucks that can be rented out to other drivers, while in another you might try to take over several of the speakeasies.

Bootleggers was pure fun and I recommend it to anyone who thinks that they might enjoy the theme. It may sound silly to some, but driving trucks around, and having turf wars with henchmen really is a lot of fun, especially combined with good game mechanics. The game nearly lost a half point due to the initial complexity of rules, but in the end it deservedly received the Discovery's first five-jack rating.



Critical days of summer continue to take Airmen

By Tech. Sgt. Mike Spaits
Air Force Print News

The fatal auto accident that claimed the lives of two Airmen in Germany recently raised the Air Force's death toll to 24 during this year's "101 Critical Days of Summer."

While that number is fairly typical for summer fatalities, it is still too high, said Tom Pazell, deputy chief of Air Force Ground Safety.

"This time last year, we had 19 fatalities, and in 2003 we had 21 as of Aug. 3," Mr. Pazell said.

"Our biggest problem continues to be private motor vehicles," added Mr. Pazell. "We're losing too many people on the highways."

Included in the count this year are four Airmen who died on duty in an aircraft mishap.

This year, 15 of the 24 deaths were a result of either auto or motorcycle accidents.

"Airmen need to take an operational risk management approach to traveling and plan out what they're doing. Plan for extra travel time and do not travel too much in one day," Mr. Pazell said.

One additional factor that may be contributing to extreme behavior on the roadways could be influenced by movies, reality television programming and even video games glamorizing high speeds and extravagant stunts, safety officials said.

"As far as motorcycles go, we've seen numbers (of accidents) over the last three years that are off the scales," Mr. Pazell said.

In a bold move to try to curb motorcycle accidents and to identify Airmen at higher risk for mishaps, Pacific Air Forces



Photo by Staff Sgt. Orly Tyrell

Staff Sgt. Allen Puckett fastens the chin strap of his helmet. Proper wear of safety equipment is an essential element of reducing risk while riding motorcycles.

officials have implemented several programs command wide, including a restrictive motorcycle policy intended to bring safety to the forefront for every rider in the command.

The need for senior leader involvement to ensure the program's success is critical, said Master Sgt. Todd Parish, superintendent of plans and programs for PACAF's ground safety office.

"Commanders must make safety a priority to their younger Airmen," Sergeant Parish said.

The motorcycle policy the command instituted puts heavy emphasis on training and safety awareness as well as limiting those less experienced riders to vehicles more appropriate for their skill level.

For example, the policy restricts new motorcycle riders to driving machines that are under 600 cc, and they are not allowed to carry passengers for one year.

This limits the amount of power at the hands of inexperienced riders and gives them time to develop the skills needed to operate safely.

One of the more successful safety programs adopted by PACAF has been the motorcycle mentorship program Sergeant Parish said.

The mentorship program puts experienced riders in a unit with less experienced riders to help them learn the proper skills necessary to ride safely.

"We implemented the mentorship program at Misawa (Air Base, Japan) over a year ago, and they have had no accidents since it's been in place," he said. The Air Base had averaged at least two motorcycle accidents per year for the five years prior to implementing the mentorship program.

Besides vehicle safety, Air Force officials are attempting to ingrain safety into its youngest troops early on.

The Airmen at the highest risk in general for mishaps historically have been young men in the 19- to 25-year-old category. This group tends to suffer the most accidents and fatalities, Mr. Pazell said.

One thing that can be done to reduce this group's risk is constant reminders from the commanders so troops understand the gravity of making poor decisions.

"Commanders need to drive the safety point home constantly," Mr. Pazell said.

That is exactly what the PACAF Comprehensive Assessment of Risk and Evaluation program does for the more than 17,000 Airmen who have been evaluated this year in the command, Sergeant Parish said.

The Web-based program requires supervisors to interview all Airmen under age 27 to identify lifestyle and behavioral trends that have the probability to increase an individual's exposure to risk. When all the data is gathered, the program then assigns a "score" that correlates to the potential for high-risk exposure and gives supervisors incentive to communicate with and give advice to help reduce risk or eliminate it altogether.

"If I have a troop who sky dives, hang glides and rides motorcycles, that Airman would likely be at a higher risk category than one who spends his weekends playing cards with his children," Sergeant Parish said.

The CARES program gives supervisors and commanders the tools to help their Airmen make better decisions, Sergeant Parish said.

Supervisors of high-risk category Airmen are reminded monthly to communicate with their high-risk Airmen and provide tools to help get the safety message across. Troops in less critical categories are contacted on a less frequent basis.

Regardless of which category the young men and women fall into, communication is the key to safety.

"We need to continue reaching out to our younger generation and reminding them to act responsibly so they'll make better decisions and be around for a long time," Sergeant Parish said.



FSC welcomes home former deployed Brooks members

By Rudy Purificato
311th Human Systems Wing

In what is becoming an annual tradition, the Brooks Family Support Center welcomed home more than a dozen military members during its 2nd Deployment Appreciation Day July 29.

Dozens of family members, co-workers and friends gathered at the Family Support Center to join in the festivities with special tributes and a lunchtime feast prepared by FSC director Lucy Belles and Tech. Sgt. Bridget Hendrix, readiness non-commissioned officer.

"A big welcome back to Team Brooks. What you have done is extremely important not to just the Wing and the Air Force, but to our nation," said Col. Laura Alvarado, acting 311th Human Systems Wing commander.

Noting that 52 Brooks members had

been deployed for up to 120 days, Colonel Alvarado recognized the sacrifices they, their units and co-workers made. She reserved her biggest salute to the deployed members' families who had to maintain households while their loved ones were overseas. "It's still tough, no matter how much support you have," she said, referring to the families.

"I applaud the spouses, for without their support we can not do what we do. You are the unsung heroes. America, the Wing and our leaders appreciate what you do," said Chief Master Sergeant Reggie Williams, 311th HSW Command Chief.

Honorees were presented with certificates of appreciation, while spouses and family members were given floral bouquets.

Among the honorees who made impromptu remarks was Col. L. Dan Eldredge, Department of Force En-

hancement chair for the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine. "What made it most rewarding (tour of duty) were the many letters, e-mails, phone calls and care packages we received from home," he said. Colonel Eldredge, a physician, and USAFSAM public health officer Maj. Deborah Carr, spent four months at Baghdad's International Airport providing casualty support to coalition flights arriving in Iraq.

Other honorees spoke about the team work, camaraderie and positive attitudes they had experienced which made their tours a lot more tolerable, and in many cases, enjoyable. Every major base organization had deployed members who were honored. The majority of them had deployed to the Middle East.

Last year, FSC inaugurated this welcome home shindig with a picnic that feted about 40 people.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Brandy Bogart

The 311th Mission Support Group's Tech Sgt. Jose Murillofierro helps his son to a plate of food at the Deployment Appreciation Day. The sergeant recently returned from the United Arab Emirate.



Stinson Field

from page 1

During World War I, the Stinsons helped train American and Canadian military pilots. However, by 1918 the city took over flying school operations there following a military ban on civilian flights.

Nevertheless, the Brooks and Air Force connection to Stinson Field continued through various eras in aviation history. Charles Lindbergh, a 1924 Brooks Field flying cadet, housed his Canadian-built Canuck nicknamed "Yellow Bird" at Stinson's 'Old Barn' hangar. During his off-duty time, Lindbergh conducted flying lessons at Stinson.

In 1942, the Army Air Corps took over Stinson Field operations, using it as an Air Training Depot. "This continued until the inception of the modern Air Education and Training Command programs of Undergraduate Pilot Training," Colonel Carr explained.

Other Brooks connections include the late Col. Carl Crane, an aviation pioneer as the "Father of Flight Simulators," who helped develop the blind flying concept while stationed at Brooks. A prominent Order of the Daedalians leader, Col. Crane honored the Stinsons in 1965 by

helping raise money for and spearheaded the dedication of a Stinson family memorial at this southside airport that he designed.

Besides the ashes of Marjorie and Jack Stinson scattered there, the spirit of a Brooks AFB scientist is forever linked to Brooks City-Base's aviation neighbor. Dr. Kent Gillingham, an Air Force scientist and G-force acceleration expert, was killed in 1993 shortly after taking off from Stinson Field.

Colonel Carr said the end of the aero club era in San Antonio helped inspire the revival of the Stinson School of Flying. "When the aero club closed, there was no outlet for civilian flight instruction other than large premiere flying schools such as Wright Flyers at San Antonio International Airport," Colonel Carr said.

He said the Kelly and Randolph AFB Aero Clubs provided its members significant cost savings because these organizations were Air Force-affiliated through their bases' Morale, Welfare and Recreation program. These clubs were less expensive than civilian flying schools because the Air Force carried the insurance



Photo by Rudy Purificato

Aviators from Brooks City-Base and Randolph and Lackland Air Force Bases gathered at Stinson Field last January to commemorate the centennial of flight. The Air Force has had a long relationship with this general aviation airport, located two miles from Brooks.

and discounted fuel to members, he explained. "The aero clubs provided a service to people. A lot of people stopped flying when they closed," Colonel Carr said.

He hopes that the Stinson School of Flying will attract more interest within the Brooks community, perhaps sparking the creation of a Brooks City-Base Aero Club.

Should that happen, flying enthusiasts will be able to soar over the Texas skies in vintage aircraft. They include the PT-17 Stearman, which was the U.S. Army and Navy's primary trainer during the 1930s and 1940s; the workhorse Cessna 172; and the Diamond Eclipse that has become the U.S. Air Force Academy's primary trainer.



Brooks celebrates National Night Out

By Elizabeth Castillo

Discovery writer

Brooks recently celebrated the 22nd Annual National Night Out with good food, games and fun for the entire Brooks community.

People of all ages joined together in the base park Aug. 2 and enjoyed free food, activities and music provided by volunteers and donations.

National Night Out is designed to improve neighborhood cam-

raderie and enhance crime and drug prevention awareness.

The event kicked off with an opening ceremony and a prayer led by Base Chaplin Candidate Lt. Justin Woods, the music of Stevie Ray Vaughn played over the speakers as people lined up to get their fill of hot dogs, snacks and snow cones.

The smell of popcorn filled the air as cheerful volunteers from Eisenhower National Bank filled up paper bags with the salty treat

and distributed prizes to winners of their card game. The Brooks Eagle Cheerleaders performed a number of cheers to energize the crowd as volunteers from Homeland Security fingerprinted participating guests.

"We volunteer for National Night Out in order to finger print parents and children for any type of future identification," said Homeland Security volunteer Ray Chandler. "It's something for the neighborhood and the community."

Three fire engines were present and firemen from Motor 29, Truck 29 and Motor 22 were on hand to meet with kids and pose for pictures. Along with the fire departments, two representatives from the South substation of the San Antonio Police Department also participated to show their support of the event.

The Home Depot contributed to the event by supplying free craft kits for children to construct their own wooden CD cases. Tables were set up and hammers provided in order for the children



Photos by Elizabeth Castillo

National Night Out volunteer Vita Fernandez paints the face of young Emily Maris as part of the event's festivities.

and parents to work together to build their National Night Out keepsake.

As the evening came to a close, raffle winners were given prizes donated by Randolph Brooks Federal Credit Union, Target, Peter Piper Pizza and the Boy's and Girl's Club.

Both children and adults enjoyed the activities and food pro-

vided by donations and volunteers who made the event successful in bringing the community together in a fun and safe environment.

"It was a great turn out," said Feletia McLaurin Youth Programs Director. "We really appreciate the folks who participate in our programs."



The Brooks Eagles cheerleading squad pose with a group of local firemen. The groups participated in National Night Out, an annual event designed to enhance crime and drug prevention awareness.



BRIG. GEN. TOM TRAVIS
311th Human Systems
Wing commander

ACTION LINE

536-2222

The COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE is your opportunity to make Brooks a better place to live, work and play.

If you have a suggestion for improvement, a complaint or a problem that you have not been able to resolve through normal complaint channels or the chain of command, call the **COMMANDER'S ACTION LINE, 536-2222**.

Only items of general interest will be published, so please leave your name and number for a personal response.

The base agencies listed below can be contacted directly:

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311th Mission Support Group –		Civilian Pay.....	536-8370
Logistics Division.....	536-3541	Inspector General (FWA).....	536-2358
Safety.....	536-2111	Military Equal Opportunity.....	536-2584
Housing Maintenance.....	533-5900	EEO Complaints.....	536-3702
Housing Office.....	533-5905	Brooks Development Office.....	536-3655
311th Services Division.....	536-2545	Brooks City-Base Marketing and	
59th Medical Squadron (Clinic).....	536-4715	Development Office.....	536-5366
Military Personnel.....	536-1845		

General Martin retires

from page 1

Prior to his current assignment, General Carlson was Joint Staff Director of Force Structure, Resources and Assessment.

General Martin's retirement culminates a 35-year Air Force career that includes 161 combat missions in Southeast Asia. He has been AFMC commander since August 2003.

"It's been an honor to serve my country and the United States Air Force for most of my life and a distinct pleasure to serve my last tour with the outstanding men and women of Air Force Materiel Command," General Martin said. Referring to both military and civilian members of the command as Airmen, General Martin said they are essential to America's success in the Global War on Terrorism.

"They make it possible for our Air Force to engage and destroy the enemy anytime, anywhere, by delivering war-winning capabilities on time and on cost," he said.

Prior to commanding AFMC, General Martin served as commander, U.S. Air Forces in Europe; commander, Allied Air Forces Northern Europe; and Air Force Component commander, U.S. European Command, Ramstein Air Base, Germany.

General Martin entered the Air Force in June 1970 with a commission from the U.S. Air Force Academy, Colorado Springs, Colo. While

at the Academy, he was the 1969 NCAA Parachuting Champion, completing more than 840 parachute jumps as a cadet and another 10 jumps while on active duty.

He went on to command the 67th Tactical Fighter Squadron, the 479th Tactical Training Wing, and the 33rd and 1st Fighter Wings. He served as the Joint Staff's vice director, Force Structure and Resources; Air Force director, Operational Requirements; and principal deputy in the Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition. General Martin is a command pilot with more than 3,800 flying hours in various aircraft, including the AT-38 and F-15.

General Martin said his successor is a superb leader. "Just as it is time for me to move on, it is also time for General Bruce Carlson to take over. He is a person I have known and admired for 32 years and I know that he will take this command to even greater levels of achievement. May God bless you all!"



FAMILY SUPPORT CENTER

SMOOTH MOVE

Aug. 16 — 12:30 - 3:15 p.m., Bldg. 537

PCSing? Hear briefings from TMO, Legal, Clinic, Finance, Housing, and the Family Support Center and ask questions. Open to all active duty members, DoD civilians and spouses. Overseas move has its own set of challenges and opportunities. Learn more about OCONUS PCS by staying after for the PCS Overseas class.

SEPARATION AND RETIREMENT

Aug. 17 — 9 a.m. - 4 p.m., Bldg. 537

This is a mandatory class for active military personnel who are retiring or separating within 120 days. Topics covered are Pre-Separation, Veterans Benefits, Survivors Benefit Plans, TRICARE, and Financial Planning for Transition. Spouses are encouraged to attend.

PREDEPLOYMENT BRIEFINGS

Aug. 30 — 1 - 2 p.m., Bldg. 537

Mandatory briefings address issues that pertain to deployed service members and their families. Appointments necessary.

TRANSITION ASSISTANCE SEMINAR

Sept. 13-15 — 8 a.m. - 4 p.m., Bldg. 537

Making the transition from the military to the civilian sector can be a big undertaking. This seminar allows us to better serve those separating and retiring members and their spouses. Topics include job search preparation resume writing, interviewing skills to include appropriate dress, veteran's benefits, and much more. One should attend at least 180 days prior to retirement/separation.

TEN STEPS TO A FEDERAL JOB — FEDJOB SEARCH WORKSHOP

Sept. 20 — 8:30 a.m. - 4 p.m., Bldg. 537

Learn the ins and outs of navigating the Federal Job system. Bring your most recent resume (paper if possible), vacancy announcements or job advertisements you have found. Bring a list of courses you have completed in any recent college or other educational program.

Call 536-2444 to register



CHANGE OF COMMAND



Photo by Staff Sgt. Brandy Bogart

Col. Richard Bachmann Jr. (right) assumed command of the U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine, as Col. Laura Alvarado, vice commander of the 311th Human Systems Wing, presents him the organization's flag at a change of command ceremony at Hangar 9 July 28. Former commander Col. Courtney Scott relinquished command.



A LOOK at BROOKS

If you could have
any super power,
what would you
choose?



Airman 1st Class
Ryan Cunningham
68th IOS

X-Ray vision — I would never have to worry about what's around the corner.



Airman 1st Class
Brittany Ricker
68th IOS

Infinite knowledge — because I would have the answers for everything.



Airman Josh Widick
68th IOS

Telepathy — so I can know what the ladies are thinking.



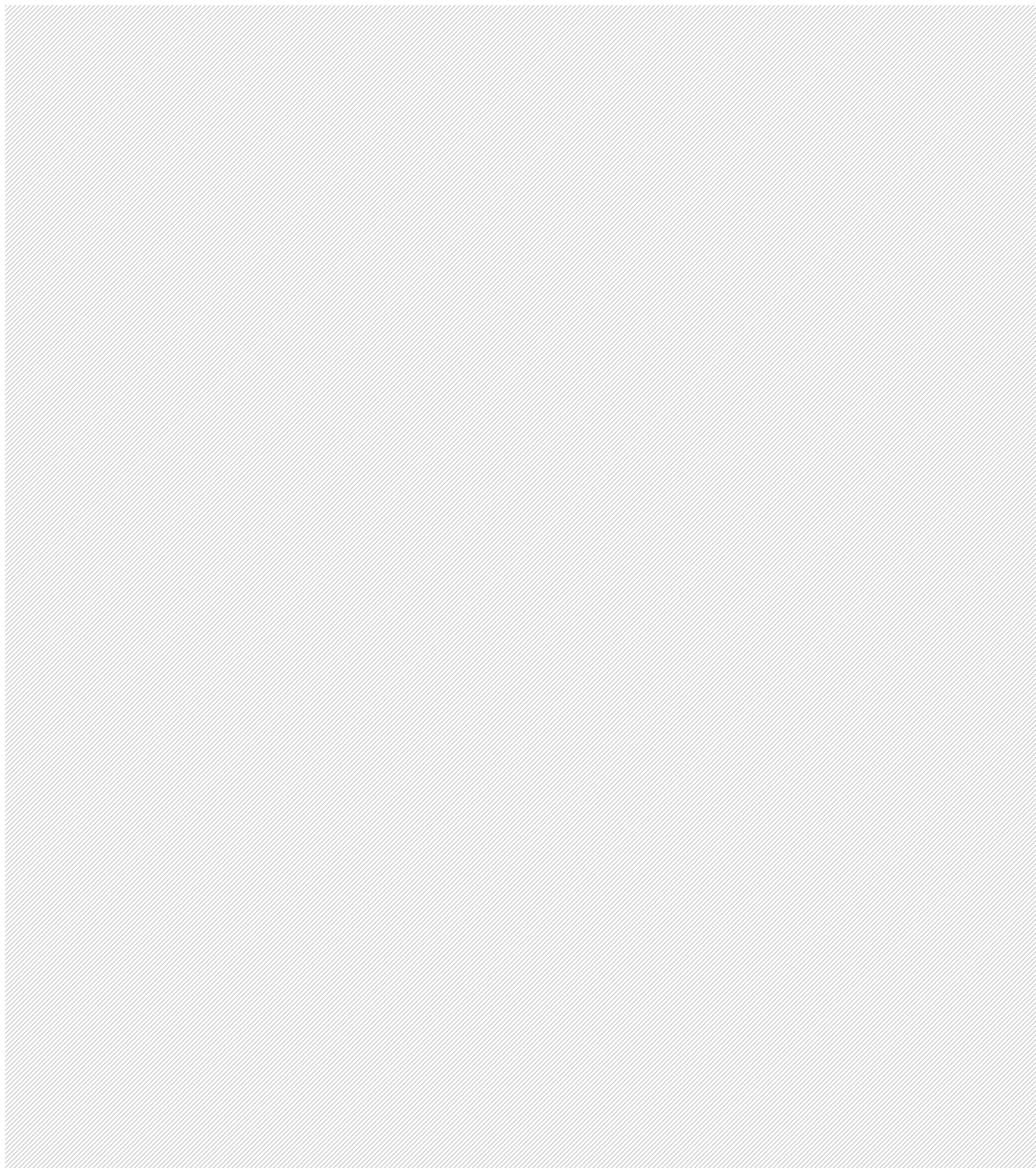
Dilecia Debarros
311th MSG

The ability to fly — because I would like to be in the clouds.



John Todd
311th MSG

Elasticity — it would help me with my job and I could reach things even if I'm far away from them.





BROOKS SPOTLIGHT

Things to do around Brooks

SWIMMING POOL Bldg. 821, 536-2636

The pool is open and available for base use. Open swim hours are from 1 to 7 p.m. Monday through Thursday and 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. weekends and holidays. Beginning Aug. 22, the pool will be closed Mondays. Pool passes are \$10 each with a \$50 maximum per family. Swimmers can purchase a day pass for \$1.50. Passes may be purchased at the fitness center or pool. The pool is also available for group parties, which can be scheduled through the head lifeguard at 536-3744.

Water aerobics classes are held every Wednesday and Friday from 7 to 7:45 a.m. at the pool. Erica Lindstrand is the instructor for the class. Call the center for more information.

BROOKS CLUB Bldg. 204, 536-3782

Poker Tournament — Get in on the latest craze at the Brooks Club during the four-week Air Force Materiel Command Texas Hold 'Em base tournament. The tournament consists of three weeks of open play with a championship round held the fourth week.

The top two club winners from each week of open play compete for the honor of base champion during the final round. Base champions will be invited to participate in the AFMC Texas Hold 'Em Command Championship held at Wright-Patterson Air Force Base Oct. 29. In the case a base champion cannot participate in the AFMC Tournament an alternate may be sent.

Please contact Letty Martinez at 536-3444 or Cindy Floyd at 536-3782 for additional information or stop by Bldgs. 714/204 and pick up a brochure.

The Boar's Head Pub offers an extensive menu Tuesday through Friday from 4 to 8 p.m. Food items

from appetizers to steaks are offered daily. The Boom Burger and New York Strip Steak are favorites of our regular guests. Make plans to visit the pub for dinner this week.

OUTDOOR RECREATION Bldg. 1154, 536-2881

Fishing expedition - A twilight deep sea fishing Trip to Port Aransas is scheduled for Saturday, Aug. 27. Our bus departs from Sidney's at 3 p.m. and arrives in Port Aransas at 7 p.m. The Scat Cat and Wharf Cat depart port at 8 p.m. for deep sea fishing. The bus returns to Brooks City-Base at 2 a.m. Cost for the trip is \$40 per person and the deadline for signing up is Aug. 19. Stop by early and sign-up to ensure a spot on the boat.

FITNESS CENTER Bldg. 940, 536-2188

Stop by the center and get more information on the many free classes offered by the staff. On going instructional classes:

Aerobics — Monday, Wednesday: 5 p.m.

Friday: 11:30 a.m.

Yoga — Monday, Wednesday, Friday: 5 p.m.

Pilates — Monday, Wednesday, Thursday: 5 p.m.

Kickboxing — Monday: 11:30 a.m.

Friday: 5 p.m.

Power Cycling — Tuesday, Thursday: 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Thursday: 5 p.m.

Circuit Training — Tuesday, Thursday: 6:15 a.m.

Tuesday, Thursday: 11:30 a.m.

The Brooks Intramural Flag Football league begins Sept. 20. It is open to all eligible participants associated with Brooks City-Base. Contact Ronnie King for more information.

The Commanders' Fitness Club runs every Wednesday morning at 6:30 a.m. Call the center staff for more details.

BASE LIBRARY Bldg. 705, 536-2636

Are you going on an overseas vacation and want to learn their language? We have the following languages on CDs: Spanish, German, Hawaiian, French, Chinese, Thai, Turkish, Korean, Japanese, Latin, Tagalog, Persian, Arabic, Irish, Russian, Vietnamese, Italian and Polish.

Stop by and check out one or more of the above CDs and get started on a wonderful learning experience.



STAPLETON

Q&A

FULL NAME/RANK:
John Stapleton

DUTY TITLE, ORGANIZATION:
Plans and programs administrative manager

IN SIMPLE TERMS,
WHAT DO YOU DO?:
Manage and monitor the day-to-day administrative, personnel, and budgetary operations of 311th HSW/XP.

BIRTHDAY:
Feb. 18, 1946

HOMETOWN:
Spur, Texas

FAMILY STATUS:
Married with two daughters and two granddaughters

PERSONAL MOTTO:
"Give an honest days work for an honest days pay."

INSPIRATIONS:
My grandfather. He always made time to take me fishing or to go to my ball games. He taught me how to ride a bike. He believed in strong family binds and doing what was right.

HOBBIES:
Golfing, swimming, gardening

PET PEEVES:
People with a "me" attitude rather than a "we" attitude.

I JOINED CIVIL SERVICE
BECAUSE:
It offered an employment opportunity after Air Force retirement and the job opening was in Japan.

FIVE-YEAR GOAL:
One more chance at a civil service job in Japan.

IF I WON THE LOTTERY:
I'd change very little as I am happy with what we have. It would be nice to be able to help friends and family out financially, and support my favorite charity.

MY GREATEST
ACCOMPLISHMENT:
Marrying my wife and raising two daughters. Also getting a degree in management after years of night and weekend classes.

Retired senior master sergeant maintains positive outlook on life

By Kendahl Johnson
Discovery editor

One can't spend a few minutes with John Stapleton without having a brightened day. This Brooks employee is the kind of person who makes you feel like you've been his best friend for your whole life even though you've only known him a short time. His down-to-earth, unassuming personality and his constant positive outlook on life could be an antidote for the blues.

Mr. Stapleton works in the 311th Human Systems Wing in the plans and programs office. His main job is to manage and monitor the day-to-day administrative, personnel and budgetary aspects of the office. He came to Brooks in 2002 following a 26-year career as active duty enlisted and a five-year career in civil service.

He was born and raised in a small Texas town called Spur, which sits one hour east of Lubbock. "I don't even know if it still exists," he said. "There was nothing to keep it on the map so it might be gone."

After graduating from high school, he started looking at his options and thought joining the Air Force might be a good idea. "I'd like to say that it was for some great reason, but to be honest, I was 18 years old, unemployed and tired of school. The Air Force offered an opportunity to do something on my own."

So in 1965, he enlisted. His first duty assignment was to Hakata Administrative Annex, a very small base set between the ocean and bay in Fukuoka, Japan. "It might remind you of Brooks," Mr. Stapleton said. "There was no flight line and just one gate. There was a really laid back atmosphere there. It was a great place for a one stinger." He added that it was the best assignment he had in 26 years in the Air Force, due in large part to the fact that it was where he met his wife.

After three years in Japan, Mr. Stapleton was then assigned to Cam Ranh, Vietnam. He spent one year there working in flight operations as administrative support for flight personnel. Despite the escalation of the Vietnam War, he never saw combat. Although he hadn't planned on making it

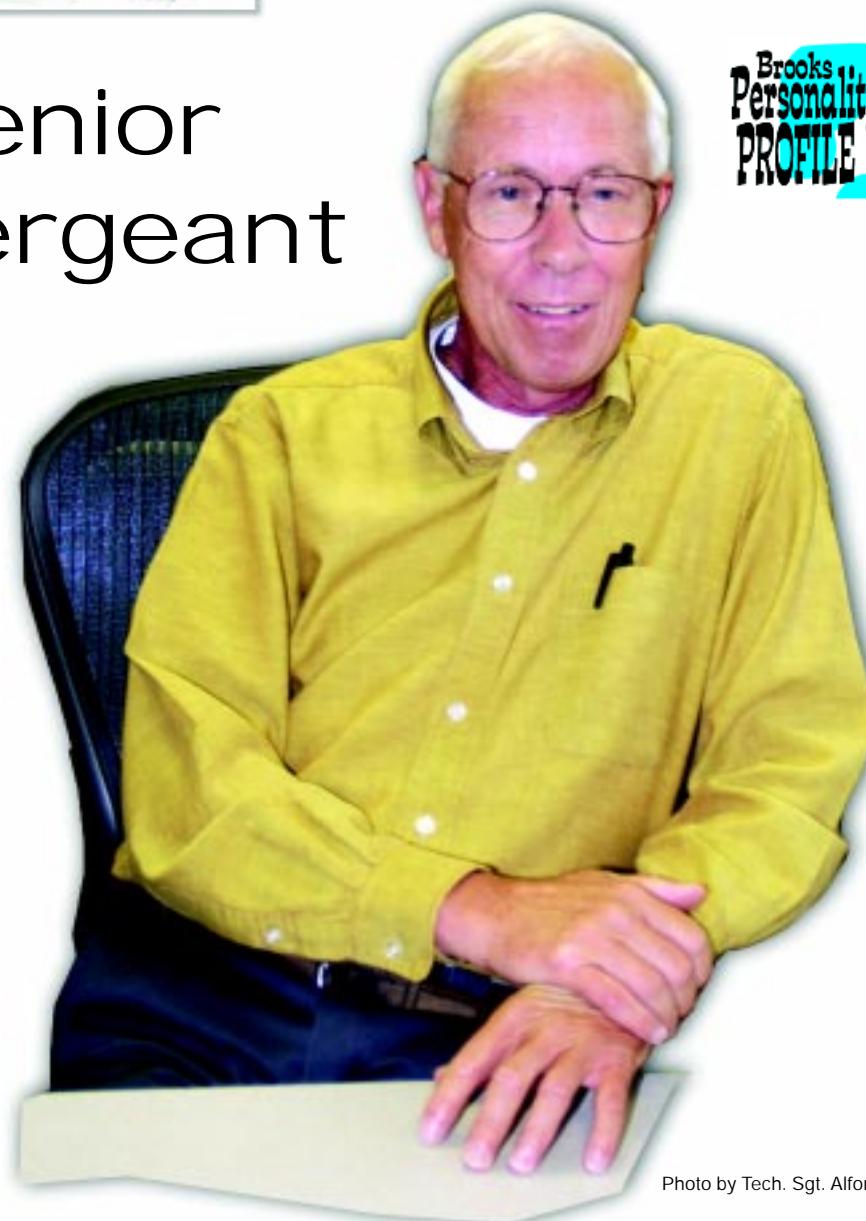


Photo by Tech. Sgt. Alfonso Ramirez

a career, he enjoyed the Air Force enough to reenlist. "Once I got in and found out what it was all about, I liked it very much."

Following Vietnam, Mr. Stapleton returned to Japan, this time to Okinawa. He was there for three years when he got his next assignment to Mountain Home, Idaho, where he was involved in the introduction of F-111 squadrons into the Air Force. "At that point, I had spent seven years overseas," he said. "They sent me back to the states so I could have a little idea of what was going on in America."

From Idaho, Mr. Stapleton went to Colorado Springs, where he worked at NORAD in Cheyenne Mountain. "It was quite an experience, going inside that mountain to work every day. I'd go in early when it was dark and come out late when it was dark. It took a little while to get used to – working inside a mountain – but I enjoyed it. I begged to stay there," he said.

When his time was up in Colorado Springs, he went back to Japan for a four-year tour at Misawa Air Base. He then went to Yokota Air Base for five years. That tour was interrupted by a short stint at Hickam Air Force Base, Hawaii, followed by another five-year tour at Yokota AB. Overall, he spent 20 of his 26 years in the Air Force stationed in Japan. "I was working in the postal career field, which is only overseas. As long as I stayed in postal, which I grew to love, I had to stay overseas. So I just spent my entire time in PACAF."

In 1991, Mr. Stapleton retired from the Air Force as a senior master sergeant. "I feel fortunate, to make it as high as senior master sergeant. When I first came into the Air Force, a lot of outstanding Airmen were retiring as staff or tech sergeants because of the system. I was very fortunate to see the

promotion system change halfway through my service."

Although retired, his time in Japan wasn't over. He worked for five years at odd jobs and going to college, but in 1997, a civil service position opened up at Yokota AB. He took it as quickly as he could and went back to Japan for five more years.

It was from that position that Mr. Stapleton came to Brooks. Because he left from San Antonio, he had priority placement to return. The government found him a job at the Wing, where he has worked for three years. Although different from his previous jobs overseas, he said he enjoys working at Brooks.

"Brooks is a great place. It's quite different, but I enjoy working here," he said. "I work with outstanding, professional people." He said although he doesn't have an administrative background, everyone is understanding and patient. "I give my all to my job," he said. "I do the best I can with what I have to give. I am not necessarily the world's best administrator but I sure try the hardest."

Although humble about his illustrious careers, Mr. Stapleton speaks with pride about his accomplishments, including his education. He earned a bachelor's degree in management from the University of Maryland at Yokota. "It was a lot of hard work and perhaps my greatest accomplishment as an Air Force member," he said.

When not at work, you might find Mr. Stapleton at the swimming pool, working in the yard or on the golf course. But wherever you find him, be sure to say hello. His outgoing personality and positive attitude will surely brighten your day and after a few minutes, you'll have the unshakeable feeling that you've been talking to a lifelong friend.



AN AEROSPACE MEDICINE SERIES

ON THE CUTTING EDGE

Air Force acceleration research speeds technological progress

(Editor's note: This is Part 5 of a comprehensive series that focuses on the enormous impact that Air Force vision and ingenuity has had in the development of lifesaving scientific medical advances and innovations whose legacy continues to benefit America's military and civilian community.)

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

Hurling themselves through space at breakneck speeds, so that innovations and safeguards they tested could help warfighters survive, was part of an arduous scientific process that aviation medicine pioneers gladly pursued. Their journey defined the concept of fearlessness and self-sacrifice, knowing that testing the limits of human endurance could lead to serious injury or death.

What motivated them was finding aeromedical solutions to counter the effects of gravitational forces associated with aerobatic maneuvers, which are inherently dangerous and impact pilot performance. They also knew that with the advent of jet aircraft, high G-force exposures became more prevalent, and consequently, potentially more deadly.

American scientists had by 1931 measured acceleration levels achieved during fighter dog-fight aerobatic maneuvers such as loops, pull-outs from dives, 180-degree turns, barrel rolls and spins. These maneuvers produce increased Gs while creating potentially lethal conditions, such as G-loss of consciousness and spatially disorienting illusions that fool pilots' sense of balance by compromising their vestibular system.

"G forces themselves impact the blood flow going primarily to the brain. Under high Gs, the heart cannot pump the blood hard enough to get it to the brain,"

said Air Force Research Laboratory physiologist Dr. Paul Werchan in an April 4, 1999 Air Force Times story by Jennifer Palmer.

To combat the problem, anti-G pressure suits were developed during the 1940s, along with G-straining maneuvers, to increase blood flow to the brain. Pioneering these developments was the Aerospace Medical Research Laboratory at Wright Field, Ohio and Dr. Earl Woods, under War Department contract at the Aeromedical Unit for Research in Aviation Medicine at the Mayo Clinic in Rochester, Minn.

Their collective research led to a prevailing view that pilots could endure no more than 4Gs (four times their body weight) without protective anti-G suits. Col. John Paul Stapp, an Air Force scientist-physician, challenged that view by risking life and limb. In a Dec. 3, 1999 Discovery story, Dr. Stapp said, "We can't just build an aircraft in which the cockpit sustains 40Gs until you prove pilots can survive 40Gs."

Dr. Stapp, the world's original rocketman from 1947 to 1954, pioneered physiological effects studies of abrupt acceleration and deceleration. His work led to the development of passive restraints for aviators, including better seat belts and shoulder harnesses, and improved aircraft cockpit design that supported advanced aircrew ejection systems. His research as America's first 'crash dummy' also supported the automotive industry, leading to more impact-resistant

car bumpers, development of padded dashboards and creation of national seat belt and airbag safety standards.

He accomplished this through 29 crash impact and windblast tolerance experiments conducted at Holloman AFB, N.M.. The most historic of these produced a then land-based speed record on Dec. 10, 1954 aboard rocketsled 'Sonic Wind No.1.'

"While testing human endurance of deceleration, I attained a speed of 632 mph which was decelerated in one and a quarter seconds," he recalled during a 1995 Discovery interview. During that test Dr. Stapp sustained 40Gs, fast enough to outrun a .45 caliber bullet.

His body paid a heavy toll for research. Dr. Stapp broke his right wrist twice, suffered an abdominal hernia and retinal hemorrhages, cracked several ribs and broke his tailbone four times.

Praising Dr. Stapp's contributions, former Air Force Secretary F. Whitten Peters said, "Stapp is a true American hero. He changed the face of our world forever through his devotion to science and personal sacrifices to this nation. His gift to us is remembered every time we snap our seat belts on or dream of the stars."

Lesser known pioneers, such as Capt. Eli Beeding, Jr., also contributed mightily. This Aeromedical Research Laboratory special projects officer survived a record 83Gs during a backward facing rocketsled test in May 1958. His work led to crew escape system seat improvements.

Recognizing his feat, the July 12, 1962 Astro Medic newspaper reported, "Despite injuries sustained during this run, Capt. Beeding continued for 16 months to subject himself to high-level runs with varying positions and harnesses until forced to discontinue participation as a subject because of compromised health."

Brooks AFB acceleration research experts, Drs. Sidney Leverett, George Mohr, Russell Burton and Kent Gillingham, significantly enhanced aircrew sur-



Courtesy Photos

A Russian K-36D ejection seat is evaluated during a 1993 test at Holloman Air Force Base, N.M., as part of a foreign equipment comparative testing program sponsored by the office of the Secretary of Defense.

vival through initiatives that produced the Advanced Technology Anti-G Suit; the high pressure, ready flow anti-G valve; and the anti-G pilot conditioning training program.

Air Force retirees and dependents, who had had open heart surgery, also contributed to acceleration research. These volunteers helped Brooks AFB scientists in 1978 make aircraft tilt back seat modifications that allowed pilots to better withstand 7Gs or higher.

U.S. Air Force School of Aerospace Medicine research physiologists Drs. James Whinnery and John Burns recruited Wilford Hall Medical Center patients at Lackland AFB, Texas who had artificial heart valves.

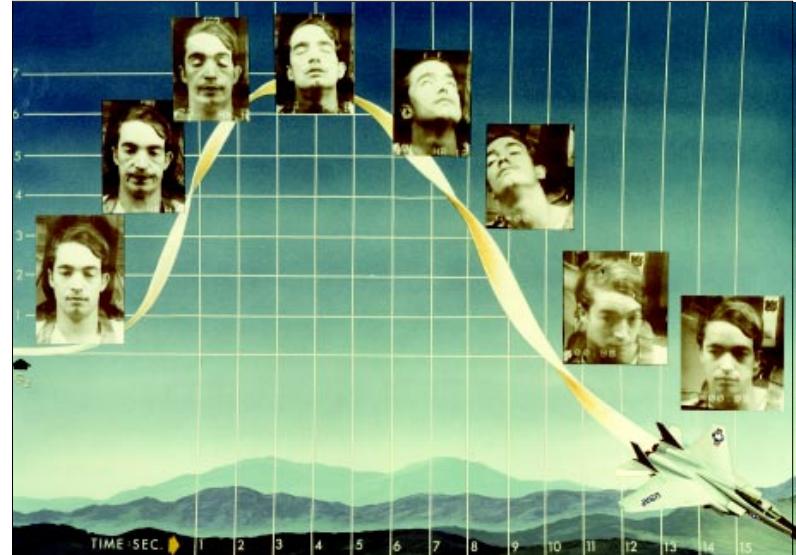
"Knowing the exact vertical distance between the eyes and

the heart is needed to determine which seat configuration and seat back angle is best for fighter pilots," Dr. Whinnery said in an August 11, 1978 Discovery story.

He and Wilford Hall cardiologist Dr. Charles Boucher were inspired to use these patients as test subjects because their artificial heart valves served as excellent x-ray markers in determining eye-to-heart distance ratios.

Volunteers were grateful for the opportunity to advance aerospace medical knowledge, best articulated in an August 1978 Discovery interview with retired Chief Warrant Officer Julius Opella.

"The Air Force did a good job for me. I felt I sort of owed them and I'll be happy to do more if it would help Air Force people of the future," he said.



This Air Force centrifuge test subject experiences momentary G-force induced loss of consciousness. Brooks AFB acceleration physiologists during the 1960s-80s modified G-straining maneuvers that enhanced pilots' chances of not 'blacking out' during high-G combat aircraft maneuvers.



Air Force physician Dr. John Paul Stapp suffered a broken wrist during his historic rocketsled ride at Holloman AFB, N.M., Dec. 10, 1954, when he decelerated from 632 miles per hour in 1.25 seconds. His feat set a land-based speed record.



Brooks varsity hoop squad to host open tryouts Aug. 23

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

The early Byrd hopes not to get the worm, but rather a jump start on the season as Coach Damion Byrd will hold open tryouts Aug. 23 for the Brooks varsity basketball team.

Having previously fielded a team late last season, the second-year coach has learned it's never too early to get a leg up on the competition. He has already named Mike Pena as the team's new assistant coach and Demetrius Stewart as team captain. He also has been busy recruiting several key players.

In retrospect, Byrd is wise to the sports axiom that a coach can not have too much talent, especially players who can give a team options and a deep bench. That is why he is banking on attracting new blood through the tryouts, scheduled from 5-7 p.m. at the base gym, which he believes will only further strengthen the Brooks squad.

"We hope to have a lot more team chemistry this year," said Byrd with the conviction of a man on a quest. There's a sense about him, also discernable in his energetic and highly motivated team captain, that things are about to change drastically in favor of Brooks. They, along with former Air Force Academy player Pena, appear determined to alter the balance of power within the Southwest Military Basketball League. That means building on the progress they made last year to make the Brooks team a formidable foe, if not a powerhouse contender.

"There's a buzz of excitement, especially with the young guys from last year. They learned they have the ability to compete in the league," said Byrd. However, he believes the team has a lot of work ahead of them to become more competitive this season. "We're going to be undersized. Without a height advantage, we're going to rely on speed and conditioning," Byrd said about their up-tempo strategy.

The shift to a fast break team is being made because they no longer have veteran 6'6" star center Slim Bailey who separated from the Air Force. Also gone is the team's All-Star power forward Rob Taylor who retired.

The team is still loaded with veterans. They include playmaker Stewart who describes himself as "vertically challenged," but is a speedster and true team leader. His backup point guard will be Anthony Tillman, also from the Human

Systems Group. Other returning veterans are small forward Marcus Butler and center Laderis Harper from the 311th Human Systems Wing; multi-position player Rod Bryant and forward Frank Hayden from the Mission Support Group; power forward-center Warren Benge from the Air Force Research Laboratory; and the 68th Information Operations Squadron's shooting guard Wilman Dean, small forward-shooting guard Corey Overton and power forward Desmond Fahie, the latter scheduled to re-join the team in January after returning from his desert deployment.

"Dean is going to be unstoppable. He realizes he can carry us with his speed and quickness. He is a legitimate three point threat," says Byrd, noting that together with Bryant and Hayden, Brooks has a trio of perimeter shooters that will give opponents fits. Admits the coach, "Our success depends on what happens on the perimeter. We have the bodies to do it."

Nevertheless, Brooks' strategy isn't going to be one-dimensional. Says Pena, "We will stress defense. Opponents will need their track shoes." Byrd added, "We won't be intimidated by anybody. At the same time, we won't surprise anybody."

Evidence of the team's improvement last year is chronicled in an e-mail from long-time Randolph Air Force Base coach Terrance Dunkley to Byrd that claimed the former was worried about playing Brooks. Brooks beat their arch-rival following that respectful message, the team's first victory over Randolph in years.

"We've put a little anxiety in our opponents (last year). They're going to respect us by the end of the season," Byrd predicts. He also knows that in order for the team to achieve great things the players must be willing to do what is needed to win. Byrd says, "Last year we learned that we can compete. Now we have to compete to win."

While great intentions and expectations generally run high prior to the start of any season, this year could conceivably be different in terms of Brooks legitimately vying for a title. Time will tell. The clock on the Brooks season begins ticking this month. Fans hope that the clock will not stop before the Byrd-led squad accomplishes its lofty goals. Should they prevail, they'll achieve something that no Brooks varsity hoop squad has done in more than 50 years – win a championship.

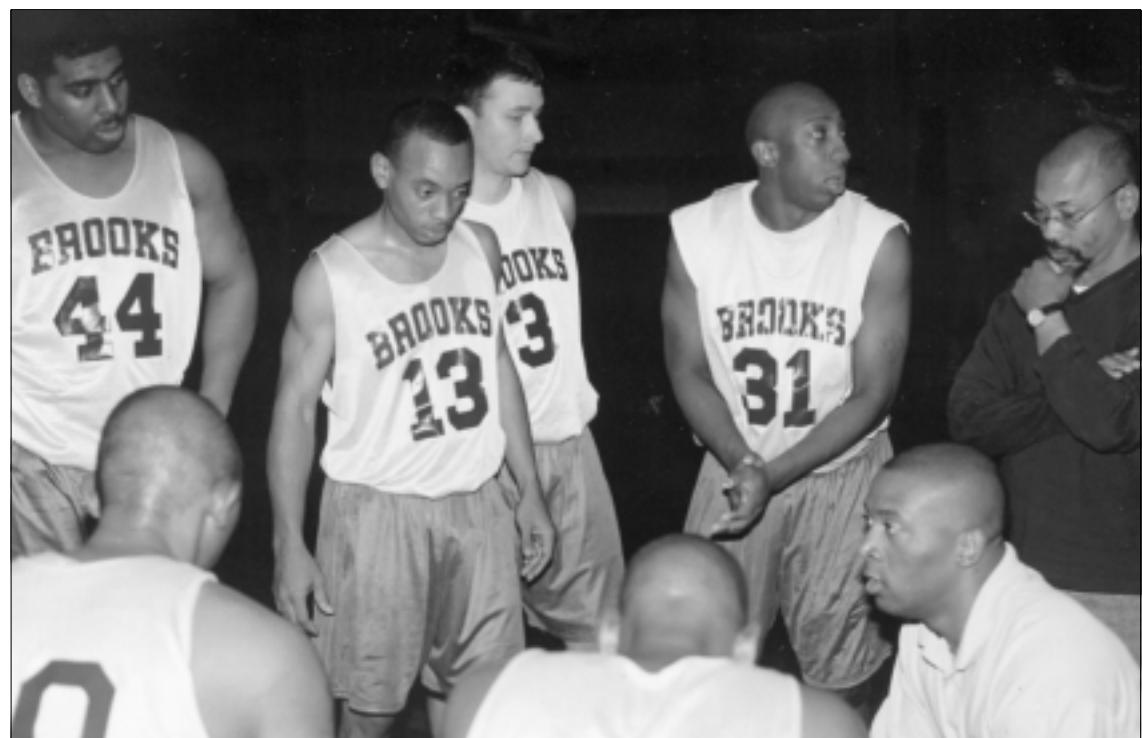


Photo by Rudy Purificato

Coach Damion Byrd (far lower right) goes over game strategy during the 2004-05 season. Coach Byrd hopes to rebuild his squad, as several players from that team are gone.



Airman's Council to host Brooks dodgeball tourney

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

It seems base sports fans can't get enough of dodgeball, prompting the Brooks Airman's Council to host an Aug. 18 tournament at the fitness center.

This event is the third dodgeball competition held at Brooks within the past year. Previous tournaments have been staged by the Brooks City-Base Combined Federal Campaign in November 2004 and the Brooks Company Grade Officers Council in February of this year. The 68th Information Operations Squadron and Human Systems Group won those tournaments, respectively.

Airman 1st Class Richard Killough, Brooks Airman Council president who is assigned to the 68th IOS, said first and second place trophies will be awarded following the conclusion of the championship round.

If past tournaments are any indication, the Airman's Council event should generate strong participation. Base organizations can enter as many teams as they want, provided they pay the \$30 entry fee per squad. Teams are com-

posed of a maximum of six players. The games are fast-paced, lasting up to 30 minutes, but usually ending after about five minutes.

The object in dodgeball is to dodge six red soccer-sized rubber balls traveling at speeds fast enough to warrant a traffic ticket on base. A team wins when all the opponent's players have been knocked out of the game after being hit by these rubber projectiles.

Dodgeball's popularity here and at other military bases worldwide got a much-needed boost following the 2004 premiere of a movie by the same name that starred comedian Ben Stiller.

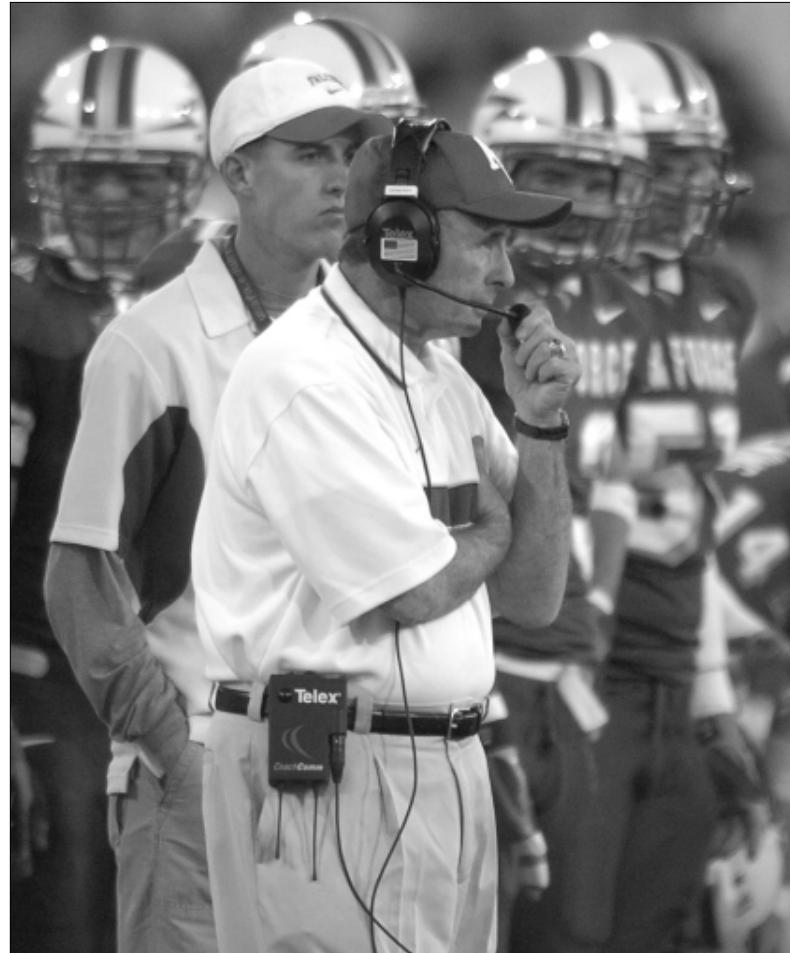
The American game is a variation on an ancient sport that began during the Roman Empire. That version was called Swing Ball, a sport based on gladiatorial contests in which opponents wielded a ball and chain weapon.

Today, excess energy is the engine that drives dodgeball enthusiasts. However, the sport has further evolved into a less violent game where the goal is to win rather than knock an opponent unconscious. To register for the tournament, call 546-6068.

ENTER Discovery's Fantasy Football Challenge

Email discovery@brooks.af.mil for details

Air Force football team looks to bounce back



Courtesy photo

Fisher DeBerry, head coach of the Air Force Academy football team, looks to rebound from a 5-6 record last year, just the third losing season of his career.

By Troy Garnhart

USAFA/Athletic media relations

When you're coming off just the third losing season in a brilliant 21-year career, you can't wait to start the next season.

Air Force head coach Fisher DeBerry is more than ready. He

would have started the season the week after the last game if he could have.

"I can't wait to get back on the field," DeBerry said. "Our strength staff has done a good job of bringing out the athleticism of our players in the off-season and now we need to get them on

the field and develop it with practice."

The team is coming off a 5-6 season with a squad that was very young, even by Academy standards. The Falcons had 18 freshmen play in varsity games, the most in the DeBerry era.

The good news about 2005 is that young team, although still young, is much more experienced and the future is very bright.

Like any year with the Falcons, it all starts with the offense and the quarterback. The Falcons are in great shape with sophomore Shaun Carney returning. All Carney did as a rookie was become the first freshman to start on opening day in school history and finished the year with a school-record 61.1 completion percentage.

Carney completed 91 of 149 passes for 1,315 yards with 11 touchdowns and six interceptions. His quarterback efficiency rating of 151.52 would have ranked second in the nation, but he lacked enough attempts to qualify for the national statistics. His rating is the third-best in Air Force history and his 11 TD passes rank sixth all-time for a single season. Carney also led the team in rushing with 596 yards and six touchdowns.

The North Olmsted, Ohio, product played his best against the best. He rushed for a career-

best 95 yards and a career-high three touchdowns against then 14th-ranked Utah. He also hit nine of 13 passes for 158 yards. Carney completed 11 of 18 passes for 203 yards and rushed for 93 yards in the team's season finale against Colorado State to lead the team to a 47-17 win.

"Shaun still has a long way to go, but he certainly showed he's capable of being a solid player," the coach said. "He has the potential to be thought of as one of those great ones that has played here."

The backup position is where two of the biggest stories of the season rest. Senior Adam Fitch, last year's backup, has moved to halfback. Third-stringer Andy Gray has moved to free safety and will play on special teams.

The moves open the door for junior Lucas Ewing and sophomore Jim Ollis to battle for the backup role. Both played on the junior varsity a year ago and were solid in spring drills.

Fitch's move to halfback will help overcome the loss of several quality players. Seniors Darnell Stephens and Anthony Butler are lost to graduation. The pair ranks among the all-time leaders in school history for rushing yards by halfbacks in the option era with over 3,000 combined. In addition to these two, the Falcons will be without Kris

Holstege, Matt Ward and Edward Moss, who all had valuable experience.

Fitch showed tremendous running ability as a quarterback last year. When inserted into the starting lineup for the Army and San Diego State games to provide a spark, he responded. Fitch rushed for 115 yards against the Black Knights, then added a career-best 135 yards against the Aztecs. He also found the end zone three times in the two starts.

"This is a good move for our football team and one that Adam came to us about," DeBerry said. "This way we can get both guys on the field because they are two of our best players. I think it shows what kind of leader Adam is to want to do what's best for the team."

Junior Justin Handley and sophomore Chad Smith are slated as the starters. Handley saw significant action last year, rushing for 94 yards on 22 carries. He also was third on the team in receiving with 13 catches for 127 yards and a touchdown. Smith joined the varsity midway through the season and saw action in six games, rushing for 57 yards.

They will be joined in the backfield by sophomores Kip McCarthy and Todd Newell, who were junior varsity team members last year.

Brooks softball team to play in state tourney

By Rudy Purificato

311th Human Systems Wing

lost the second game to Randolph AFB 13-11. It was the first time Brooks had beaten Lackland in two years.

"Lackland beat us bad in the Band Aid Tournament at Little Rock AFB in May. We've come a long way from then and have showed improvement," the assistant coach said.

He and head coach John Connolly attribute the team's overall success to a core of rookies who have helped stabilize a squad that had lost key veterans from last year's team.

Among players who significantly contributed to Brooks' resurgence are outfielders Frank Hayden from the Mission Support Group and Justin Murphy and Cory Bahl from the Air Force Institute for Operational Health; infielder Casey Walterschneid with the Human Systems Group; third baseman Justin Vendola and pitcher Luis Martinez with USAFSAM and infielder Andy Marlott from the 68th Information Operations Squadron.



Photo by Rudy Purificato

The Brooks varsity softball team will compete in the state softball tournament in September. The last time a Brooks team won at state was in the 1940s.